

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

[English]

### **Harnessing of Non-Conventional Energy Sources**

7162. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of steps taken to harness non-conventional energy sources, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to set up one demonstration Centre for the purpose at the district headquarters; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) For development and popularisation of various types of non-conventional energy sources and systems, a comprehensive programme of research, development, demonstration and dissemination has been taken up in the country. Programmes for harnessing of non-conventional energy sources being implemented through State Governments and Implementing Agencies, besides autonomous institutions and research organisations. Country-wise infrastructure for the manufacture, installation and maintenance of various systems and devices has been developed in public as well as private sectors located in different States.

Under the extension programmes on New and Renewable Sources of Energy, such as, biogas, Improved Chulha Solar Thermal Energy systems and Solar Cookers, State-wise physical targets are fixed in consultation with the State Governments and Nodal implementing agencies. These

programmes are implemented by the respective State Governments/ Implementing Agencies as per the guidelines contained in the administrative approvals of respective programmes. Solar Photovoltaic systems and devices, Urjagram, biomass gasifiers/ sterling engines are taken up by various State Governments on demonstration basis. Depending on the wind and hydro energy potential, wind farms and mini/micro hydro electric plants are taken up for generation of power in suitable locations.

For harnessing and use of renewable energy systems and devices, incentives such as subsidy, soft-term loans and fiscal incentives in the form of depreciation allowances and relief in sales, tax, excise duty and custom duty are provided to the users and manufactures in different States and Union Territories. Publicity and awareness campaigns are also being undertaken through All India Radio and Doordarshan network in addition to publicity efforts being made on decentralised basis by various State Government and Implementing Agencies.

(b) and (c). No, Sir. There is no proposal to set up one demonstration Centre on non-conventional energy sources at the district headquarters.

### **Assistance to Madhya Pradesh for Inter-State Projects**

7163. SHRI ARVIND NETAM: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any programme to give any financial assistance to Madhya Pradesh for the completion of several inter-state projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, whether the Government will consider any such assistance to be given as

a special case in view of paucity of funds with State Government of Madhya Pradesh?

**THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA):** (a) to (c). For expeditious completion of some of the Nationally important irrigation projects in the country including inter-State projects, it has been contemplated to provide special Central assistance to the States. Additional Central assistance for externally assisted projects is being made available in accordance with the existing guidelines.

#### **New Telephone Exchanges under Calcutta Telephones**

7164. **SHRI RUPCHAND PAL:** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up modern telephone exchange in Hooghly district under Howrah area of Calcutta telephones; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Five telephone exchanges namely Chander Nagar, Chinsurah, Triveni, Uttarpara and Serampore are working in Hooghly District under Howrah area of Calcutta Telephones:

- (i) An electronic exchange (RLU) is already working at Chander Nagar.
- (ii) Replacement of existing telephone exchanges at Chinsurah and Triveni by electronic exchanges has been planned during 1992-93.
- (iii) Telephone exchanges at Uttarpara

and Serampore will also be replaced by electronic exchanges on expiry of their useful life.

#### **Minor Irrigation Projects of A&N Islands**

7165. **SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA:** Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have conducted any study on minor irrigation projects in the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands for providing irrigation facilities; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Central Water Commission have conducted investigations in North, Middle, South and Little Andaman and Great Nicobar Islands. Four Minor Irrigation Schemes were prepared, two each in Little Andaman and Great Nicobar Islands, in addition to the recommendations for Diglipur and Kalara schemes in North Andaman and Rangat in Middle Andaman Islands. Subsequently Korangnallah Minor Irrigation Schemes in Middle Andaman was also finalised. Two schemes in Little Andaman have been taken up for execution which are likely to be completed in 1992 and 1994. Technical approval for Prem Bahadur Nallah and Swarcoop Nallah Minor Irrigation Schemes in Great Nicobar and Korangnallah scheme in Middle Andaman have been given by Central Water Commission.

#### **Development of Gas Based Projects in Southern Regions**

7166. **SHRI GANGADHARA SANIPALLI:** Will the Minister of POWER